

Quick facts on:



NOVEMBER 2004

Acceler8 – An Overview

STEPPING UP THE PACE TO RESTORE AMERICA'S EVERGLADES

ACCELER8 is a major boost for Everglades restoration. The expedited course of action reaffirms the commitment of the federal/state/local partnership to revitalize the ecosystem by stepping up the pace on eight restoration projects:

- C-43 (Caloosahatchee River) West Reservoir
- Everglades Agricultural Area Reservoir - Phase 1 with Bolles & Cross Canals Improvements
- Everglades Agricultural Area Stormwater Treatment Area Expansion
- Picayune Strand (Southern Golden Gate Estates) Restoration
- C-44 (St. Lucie Canal) Reservoir / Stormwater Treatment Area
- Water Preserve Areas
(Includes Site 1 Impoundment, C-9 Impoundment, C-11 Impoundment, Acme Basin B Discharge, WCA-3A/3B Seepage Management)
- Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands - Phase 1
- C-111 Spreader Canal

By accelerating the funding, design and construction of these projects, the Everglades will experience positive benefits much sooner... and in a more cost-effective manner. As opposed to the “pay as you go” approach, taxpayer dollars needed for construction will be significantly leveraged. The South Florida Water Management District will finance project construction with “Certificates of Participation” revenue bonding. Financing and fast-tracking these projects NOW helps avoid the inevitable increases in construction materials and labor costs.

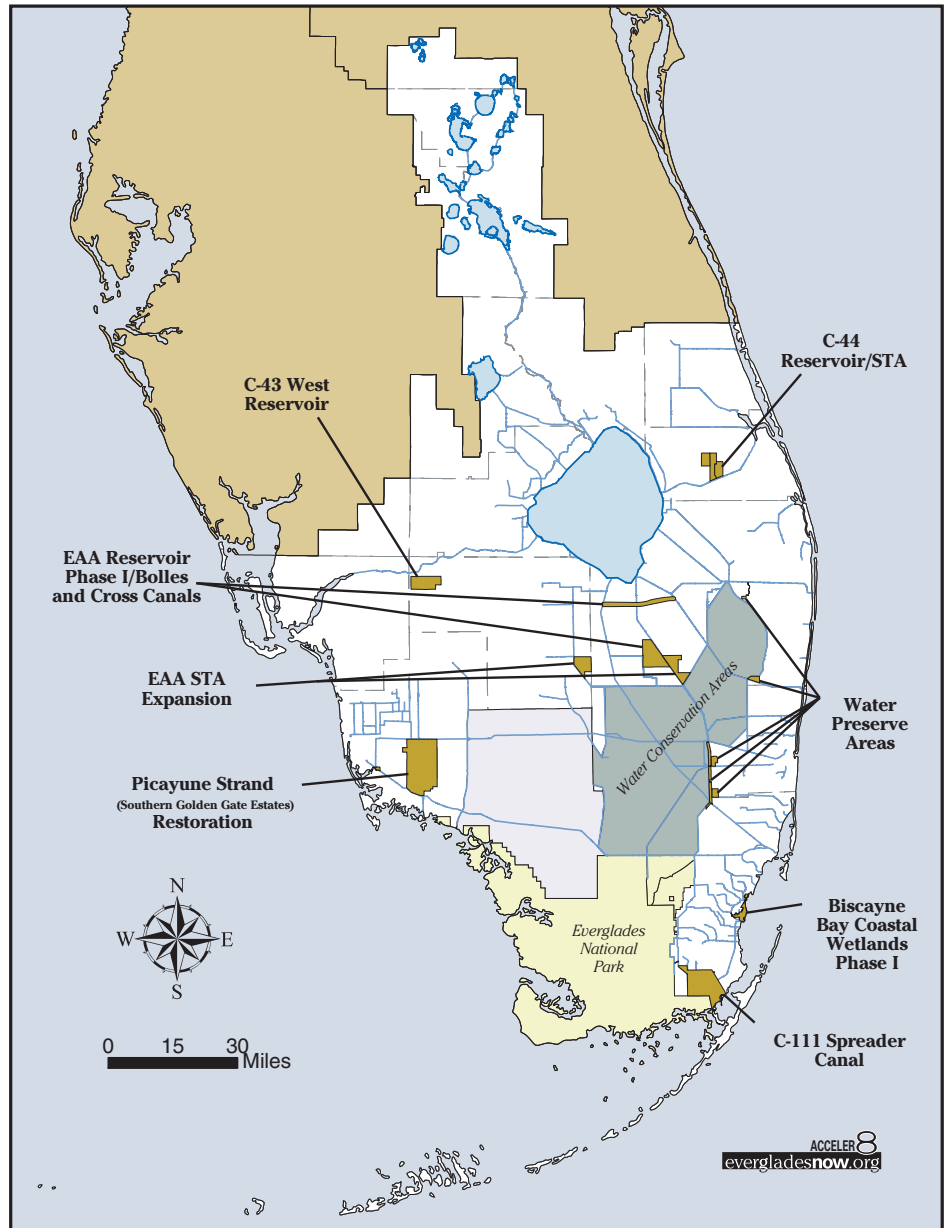
Most of the land for these projects has already been acquired, with much of it purchased in partnership with the federal government. Acceler8 strengthens the state and federal partnership to restore the Everglades.

Building these projects on an accelerated pace is a major economic undertaking that is expected to generate a large demand for goods and services. Special efforts are being made to ensure that a wide variety of vendors and contractors will be utilized, and partnerships are under way with local workforce development organizations to help prepare and train area workers with needed job skills.

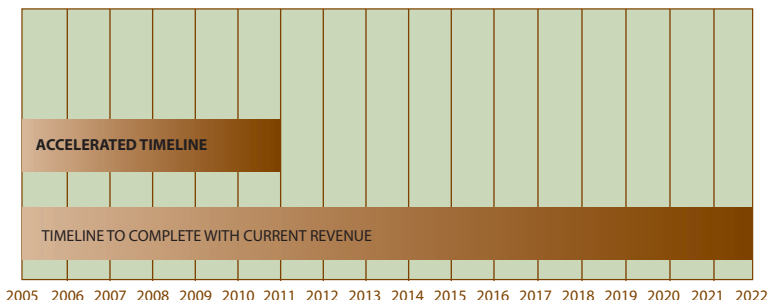
In addition to the environmental improvements, these projects will also provide additional flood control and water supply options, along with the potential for recreational opportunities.

Acceler8 benefits

- Achieves restoration goals faster
 - Project components in ground 11 years ahead of schedule
 - Provides approximately 50% of needed surface water storage components
 - Earlier improvements in water deliveries to estuaries
 - Earlier improvements to Lake Okeechobee habitat
 - Earlier improvements in water quality
 - Earlier improvements in water flow and timing / hydropatterns
- Fiscal responsibility / cost efficiencies / economic stimulus
- Provides greater flood control and water supply management flexibility
- Earlier opportunities for public access and recreation opportunities on state and federal lands



Timeline for All Acceler8 Projects



ACCELER8
evergladesnow.org

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